

Message Text

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60

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 SCSE-00 SNM-02 PPTE-00 SCA-01

JUSE-00 TRSE-00 SY-05 L-02 H-02 CIAE-00 INR-07

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6272

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, CPRS, BL

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: ARRESTS OF AMERICANS INCREASE IN BOLIVIA.

1. IT IS EVIDENT FROM THE RAPIDLY INCREASING TEMPO OF ARRESTS OF AMERICAN CITIZENS ON NARCOTICS CHARGES THAT THE NUMBER OF TRAFFICKERS FROM THE U.S. IS INCREASING, AND THAT THE EFFECTIVENESS OF BOLIVIA'S NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT UNIT IS ALSO INCREASING. ONE YEAR AGO THERE WAS ONLY ONE AMERICAN IN JAIL IN BOLIVIA ON NARCOTICS CHARGES. THE FIGURE NOW STANDS AT TWELVE. IN THE PAST FOUR MONTHS, 17 AMERICANS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED ON NARCOTICS CHARGES, OF WHICH FOUR HAVE BEEN EXPELLED, THREE RELEASED, TWO ARE BEING TRIED IN THE COURTS, AND THE REMAINING EIGHT ARE UNDER INVESTIGATION.

2. PERSONS EXPELLED HAVE A RED STAMP PLACED IN THEIR PASSPORTS WHICH IDENTIFIES THEM AS UNDESIRABLE PERSONS AND THEY MAY NOT RETURN TO BOLIVIA. NARCOTICS VIOLATORS ARE IDENTIFIED BY AN INKED-IN NOTATION UNDER THE RED STAMP.

3. SOME PERSONS NOW ON TRIAL HAVE WAITED SEVERAL UNCLASSIFIED

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MONTHS IN JAIL BEFORE THEIR TRIAL WAS BEGUN.

4. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF THE DEPARTMENT COULD SPECIFICALLY MENTION BOLIVIA IN THE NEXT PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF PROBLEMS FACED IN OTHER COUNTRIES BY AMERICANS PICK-UP ON NARCOTICS CHARGES. TRAFFICKERS COMING TO BOLIVIA ARE STILL UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT IT IS EASY TO BUY ONE'S WAY OUT OF TROUBLE HERE. IN FACT, IT IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT AS ILLUSTRATED BY THE ABOVE STATISTICS. STEDMAN

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Message Attributes

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